

CHANGING EFFECTIVE DATE OF CERTAIN FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS

Mr. MCHENRY. Mr. Speaker, I ask unanimous consent that the Committees on Oversight & Government Reform and House Administration be discharged from further consideration of the bill (H.R. 6634) to change the effective date for the Internet publication for certain financial disclosure forms, and ask for its immediate consideration in the House.

The Clerk read the title of the bill.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Is there objection to the request of the gentleman from North Carolina?

There was no objection.

The text of the bill is as follows:

H.R. 6634

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives of the United States of America in Congress assembled,

SECTION 1. CHANGED EFFECTIVE DATE FOR FINANCIAL DISCLOSURE FORMS OF CERTAIN OFFICERS AND EMPLOYEES.

Section 1(a) of the Act entitled “An Act to change the effective date for the internet publication of certain information to prevent harm to the national security or endangering the military officers and civilian employees to whom the publication requirement applies, and for other purposes”, approved September 28, 2012 (Public Law 112-178; 5 U.S.C. App. 105 note) is amended by striking “December 8, 2012” and inserting “April 15, 2013”.

SEC. 2. EFFECTIVE DATE.

The amendment made by section 1 shall take effect on December 8, 2012.

The bill was ordered to be engrossed and read a third time, was read the third time, and passed, and a motion to reconsider was laid on the table.

□ 1200

MOMENT OF SILENCE IN REMEMBRANCE OF THE HONORABLE JACK BROOKS

(Mr. HALL asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HALL. Mr. Speaker, I rise today along with my colleagues, GENE GREEN and SHEILA JACKSON LEE, to ask you to join us in a moment of silence honoring our colleague, the Honorable Jack Brooks, former dean, who passed away yesterday evening at the age of 89. Jack Brooks was a fellow Texan and a good friend who served 42 years in Congress. He was a leader dedicated to bettering our country, and he will be sorely and dearly missed by his family, friends, and this Congress.

The SPEAKER pro tempore. Members will please rise for a moment of silence.

LEGISLATIVE PROGRAM

(Mr. HOYER asked and was given permission to address the House for 1 minute.)

Mr. HOYER. Mr. Speaker, I would be glad to yield to my friend, the majority

leader, for his favorite 10 or 15 or 20 minutes of the week to inquire of the schedule for the week to come.

Mr. CANTOR. I thank the gentleman from Maryland, the Democratic whip, for yielding.

Mr. Speaker, on Monday, no votes are expected in the House. On Tuesday, the House will meet at noon for morning-hour and at 2 p.m. for legislative business. Votes will be postponed until 6:30 p.m. On Wednesday, the House will meet at 10 a.m. for morning-hour and at noon for legislative business. On Thursday, the House will meet at 9 a.m. for legislative business. Last votes of the week are expected no later than 3 p.m. on Thursday. Members are advised that this is a change from the original House calendar.

Mr. Speaker, the House will consider a number of bills under suspension of the rules, a complete list of which will be announced by the close of business Friday. Additionally, the House will appoint conferees for the National Defense Authorization Act now that the Senate has completed its work.

As was announced last week, the House has a number of outstanding legislative items that we must resolve, and first amongst them is the so-called “fiscal cliff.” Though the House’s target adjournment set in October of last year was December 14, that is no longer the case. Instead, Members are advised that the House will now be in session the week of December 17. Exact days will be announced next week. Members are further reminded that the House will not adjourn the 112th Congress until a credible solution to the fiscal cliff has been found.

Mr. HOYER. I thank the gentleman for his comments. I thank him for the early notice on next Friday.

First, Mr. Leader, if I could, we have the ending as next Thursday. I want to clarify for Members so that they know: we will not be in session next Friday. Is that accurate?

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman that is correct.

Mr. HOYER. Thank you for that information.

I also want to congratulate the gentleman for providing for the week of the 17th. I know none of us want to do that, but I appreciate the majority’s focus on the business that has not been done. I also appreciate the gentleman’s focus on the fiscal cliff and for indicating that we need to resolve that prior to leaving the 112th Congress. I think those are both positive announcements. I applaud him for that.

On the fiscal cliff—we discuss this all the time—but I want to inform the majority leader that there are now 175 signatures—we hope to have more, and we would obviously welcome people on your side of the aisle—on the discharge petition for the Walz bill, which mirrors the Senate bill, as the majority leader, I’m sure, knows, to ensure that no individual who makes \$200,000 or less on net taxable income or that a family who makes \$250,000 or less will

see a tax increase on January 1. Hopefully, we will resolve the fiscal cliff and get an agreement.

I again ask my friend: the Walz bill will be compliant with the rules and will not have a blue slip problem, obviously, and hopefully we could move that bill. Again, for the purposes of giving confidence to the 98 percent of our taxpayers who are making less than the sums put forward in the bill—\$200,000 and \$250,000—I understand and anticipate the gentleman’s response that we are all concerned with growing the economy and creating jobs and that we don’t want to dampen that dam; and we understand the gentleman’s concern about small businesses, particularly those 3 percent of small businesses that make more than this and report it on a personal income basis.

I would hope that we could give serious consideration to trying to act sooner than the end of the year and as soon as possible, frankly, on—as we call it—the middle class tax cut, the \$250,000 and under.

I yield to my friend to see whether or not, perhaps, the actions that have been taken this week have any bearing on his thoughts on whether we could schedule that bill.

Mr. CANTOR. Mr. Speaker, I would say to the gentleman that I don’t think it is a good thing right now to bring that bill to the floor because we hope that we can have successful negotiations with the White House.

I think, as the gentleman said earlier this week, Mr. Speaker, that our side actually put on the table, in our letter to the President, some specific proposals that actually deserve a response from the White House. That’s what we’re looking for: Are we going to get a response to our proposal about putting revenues of \$800 billion on the table, of putting out there a framework for spending reduction?

I know, Mr. Speaker, the gentleman has agreed with me that we’ve got to do something to address the spending problem because you can’t keep taxing and borrowing without doing the other side, which is to take care of the problem of spending. I think that the letter and the proposal that we sent to the President deserve a response, Mr. Speaker; and if we don’t get a response, then perhaps the President will be willing to meet with us—one or the other—because it doesn’t seem to me to be upholding the obligation to the American people that we’re going to resolve this issue if we just stand still.

□ 1210

We put these specifics out on the table. The President has not responded. We ask the President to respond, Mr. Speaker. And I’d say to the gentleman that I hope that that’s what can happen, either a response from the President—not just a summary rejection but a specific, serious response in the nature of our proposal—or if the President would agree to sit down and talk